

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

DRC-01 /090 W

----- 003680

R 042030Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5589

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1088

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR: PINT: TD, XL

SUBJECT: FIDEL AND FORBES AND ERIC AND NORMAN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

1. IN A FRENETIC DAY OF CARIBBEAN SUMMITRY YESTERDAY, CASTRO ARRIVED FROM GUYANA WITH BURNHAM IN TWO FOR DINNER WITH WILLIAMS, BARROW, AND MANLEY (WHO HAD PRESUMABLY TALKED THEMSELVES OUT AT LUNCH) BEFORE BEARING MANLEY AND BURNHAM OFF IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS MORNING FOR ALGIERS AND THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH THE ARRANGEMENTS WERE REPORTEDLY OVERWHELMED BY THE UNEXPECTED SIZE OF THE CUBAN AND GUYANESE CONTINGENTS, WE UNDERSTAND THE VARIOUS LEADERS MANAGED A FULL SERIES OF COLLECTIVE AND BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS.

2. WHILE WE HOPE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO GLEAN SOME OF WHAT WENT ON FROM THE STILL RATHER DAZED PARTICIPANTS OR OBSERVERS REMAINING HERE, THE FACT OF THE MEETING OUTWEIGHS THE CONTENT FOR THE GOTT; THE GET-TOGETHER REPRESENTED A VISIBLE STEP TOWARD THE CARIBBEAN COOPERATION SOUGHT BY WILLIAMS, DRAMATIZED T&T'S
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"INDEPENDENCE" FROM THE U.S., AND UNDERCUT DOMESTIC OPPOSITION

AND LENT SOME ZIP TO AN UNPOPULAR GOTT LATELY BESET BY INTERNAL PROBLEMS. WE ARE STRUCK BY THE ABSENCE OF EVEN NEGATIVE GOTT OR PUBLIC INTEREST HERE IN THE REAL OR PRESUMED VIEWS OF THE USG ON CUBA (THE NEW BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR GOT NOWHERE ON SUBJECT OF CASTRO VISIT WITH WILLIAMS DURING A DISCUSSION LAST WEEK).
MOFFAT

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NNN

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